

1 **Docket: EL-1**

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4 **IMPROVED WETSUIT AND WETSUIT FABRIC**

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7 **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

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10 A wetsuit and wetsuit fabric made of a multi-layer laminated fabric material
11 having a plurality of interconnected air channels formed between the fabric layers. The
12 air channels are formed by unattached regions between fabric layers that are otherwise
13 attached such as by gluing. The unattached regions are free to separate from each
14 other and expand in response to pressure from a gas such as air under pressure. The
15 air is preferably introduced through a valve such as by the wearer blowing air into the
16 valve to fill the air channels thereby expanding these "unglued" regions. In a preferred
17 embodiment, the air channels are selectively shaped to form a plurality of adjacent
18 cells, thereby adding to the aesthetic appearance of the wetsuit fabric. These cells may
19 be virtually any shape depending simply on the path chosen for the air channels. The
20 fabric employing expandable air channels may be employed at virtually any location in
21 a wetsuit as well as in accessories such as gloves, boots and hoods.
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